The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretation of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; let us now commit it to life.—Edwin Markham.

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WHOLE NO. 1275 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1935 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 25, NO. 38

Commercial Telegraph Union Plans Membership Campaign; Bans "Reds"

Chicago Convention Finances Drive to Organize All of 60,000 Commercial Wire Men — Re-elects President Powers and Secretary-Treasurer Allen.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Chicago, Ill.—The sixteenth regular convention of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of North America devoted a solid week here to considering the progress made by the organization since the Montreal convention in 1930.

Broker, leased wire, radio, press and commercial telegraph workers were all represented.

At the conclusion of 85 hours of work in seven days the convention adjourned with the confident belief that under the Wagner Labor Relations Act the Commercial Telegraphers' Union is going ahead even faster than it did under the National Industrial Recovery Act.

The convention was so anxious to get the organizing of Postal, RCA Communications and Mackay Radio completed that the reserve fund and part of the funeral benefit fund was turned over to the international officers for the work of organizing.

Present officers, Frank B. Powers as international president, and W. L. Allen, international secretary-treasurer, were re-elected for a two-year term. The newly elected General Executive Board is: W. J. McMahon, chairman and secretary, Milwaukee; G. R. Pawson, Toronto; Arthur Markel, Washington; William McEwen, Winnipeg, and William J. Ryan, New York.

Sixty Thousand Commercial Wire Men

A considerable part of the week was devoted to discussion of the strenuous efforts made by Commercial Telegraphers' Union officers to secure a code of fair competition under the NRA, and the possibilities of making faster progress in gaining recognition of newly organized units under the Wagner Act.

President Powers pointed out that there is a potential field of about 60,000 in the commercial telegraph field, of which 23,250 are exclusive of the Western Union. The new point-to-point telegraph field has about 1,000 workers and the marine radio about 1,500. A considerable portion of these workers are already organized, either in the Commercial Telegraphers' Union or dual organizations.

Radio Telegraphists' Association

Considerable latitude was given incoming officers by the convention so that negotiations with dual organizations for affiliation are almost certain to result favorably. One large unit is the American Radio Telegraphists' Association, which is now conducting a strike against ship owners on the Atlantic coast. It claims 1,700 members, of which probably 30 per cent are marine radio operators. They have discussed affiliation many times, but their demands for autonomy were too excessive for the old Commercial Telegraphers' Union constitution.

"The only release of autonomy which the American Radio Telegraphists' Association will have to make in order to obtain affiliation with the Commercial Telegraphers' Union," stated President Powers, "is the agreement that strikes must be called only on 51 per cent vote of the membership affected and with approval of the international president, and that agreements, once made, must be abided by.

"I believe that with more power given to the Executive Board and international officers, we can get together when the strike situation becomes more settled."

Drastic Ban on Communists

An anti-Communist amendment was passed, which makes it "unlawful for any member of this organization to belong to any Communist organization."

The amendment was adopted only after some of the most bitter debate of the sessions. The officers, who introduced the amendment, asked for prohibition of membership in "dual or Communist organizations," but consented to the amendment which confined the ban to Communist organizations.

President Powers pointed out that some newly formed locals in Postal Division No. 55 had taken in Communists, and in some cases had elected suspected Communists to minor office. Expulsion, however, must still remain in the hands of the subordinate unit.

Daily Worker's Tactics Exposed

Some legal action against the Daily Worker for libel was demanded by the convention, after reading articles which have appeared in that Communist organ advising telegraph workers to join the Commercial Telegraphers' Union.

The inference is being spread among members of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, and those the Commercial Telegraphers' Union is trying to organize, that the Commercial Telegraphers' Union has reached an understanding with the Daily Worker. The new method of attack on the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, which is somewhat similar to the tactics used in Canada in 1925-27, and which cost several thousands of dollars to beat, was bitterly denounced by all speakers on the resolution.

The opponents of the amendment disclaimed any Communistic sympathies, but fought heatedly for the right of any member to belong to any organization, regardless of proof that Communist obligations made it compulsory for the member to violate Commercial Telegraphers' Union laws and work for the wreckage of the union.

Government Defeats Coal Operators' First Attack on Guffey Coal Stabilization Law

District of Columbia Court Denies Injunction Asked by President of West Virginia Coal Concern.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The Government signally defeated the first attack of subversive coal operators on the constitutionality of the Guffey Coal Stabilization Law.

Justice Daniel O'Donoughue in the District of Columbia Supreme Court denied the petition for a temporary injunction restraining the Government from enforcing the Act. The injunction was sought by James W. Carter, president of the Carter Coal Company of Southern, W. Va.

Mr. Carter filed his petition within a few hours after President Roosevelt signed the measure. He cited the financial burden his company would suffer by the imposition of the 15 per cent tax on gross sales of coal which the law imposes on operators who refuse to obey the code authorized by the measure.

The cohorts which opposed the rights of the coal miners to organize without interference by employers, guaranteed by the law, gleefully predicted that the District Supreme Court would smite the measure fore and aft, especially in view of the fact that Frederick H. Wood, who successfully contested the constitutionality of the National Industrial Recovery Act before the United States Supreme Court, had been hired by Carter to assail the Guffey bill.

Mr. Wood made a long-winded argument in which he predicted the terrible things which would happen to other industries if the right of Congress to regulate the soft coal industry was sustained.

The issuing of the injunction was opposed by John Dickinson, Assistant Attorney General. Charging that the application for the injunction was premature, he pointed out that the tax to which Mr. Carter objected was not effective until November 1 and that the machinery for the enforcement of the Act had not been developed.

"The resolution of the Carter Coal Company is only a shot in the air," he continued. "The company is not yet subjected to the alternative of accepting the code or paying the tax."

Justice O'Donoughue promptly sustained the position of the Government and denied the injunction. He held that since there was no possibility that the case would be heard on its merits before November 1, when the tax provisions of the law become effective, he saw no reason to grant a temporary restraining order.

He added that he doubted his authority to "enjoin the possible imposition of a tax on a corporation when the tax has not been imposed."

"The company may sell or go out of business before November 1," he remarked.

Green Names Googe to Represent A. F. of L. At Labor Department Conference

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, announced the appointment of George L. Googe, special organizer and the Federation representative in the South, to represent him, at the Second National Conference on Labor Legislation to be held under the auspices of the Department of Labor in Asheville, N. C., October 4-5. The conference will be similar to the one which was held in Washington in February, 1934.

Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins invited Mr. Green to attend the conference. He was unable to accept the invitation because of official duties in Atlantic City in connection with the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor which convenes there on October 7 and with the conventions of the Departments of the A. F. of L., which will be held in Atlantic City the week preceding the Federation convention.

In announcing the Asheville conference, Secretary of Labor Perkins said it "will afford an opportunity to review National and State labor legislation and to discuss ways and means of meeting our future needs, especially with reference to social security as well as various other desirable forms of labor legislation."

The Governor of each State has been asked by the Secretary of Labor to appoint two official delegates to the Asheville meeting—one the Labor Commissioner of the State and the other a representative of labor. Acting on the request of Secretary Perkins for a list of names of those whom he believed should be officially invited to attend the conference to represent Labor, Mr. Green submitted the names of the secretaries of the State Federations of Labor.

Mr. Googe will arrange for a conference of the representatives of labor in Asheville on October 3 to discuss subjects for the consideration of the conference.

In a memorandum listing legislative measures which it was suggested the labor group should present to the conference with the recommendation that efforts be made to secure their enactment in States which do not have such laws, Mr. Green included:

Ratification of the Child Labor Amendment to the Federal Constitution; anti-injunction legislation; unemployment insurance and old-age pensions to meet the requirements of the National Social Security Act; minimum wages for women and minors; convict labor legislation to take advantage of the Hawes-Cooper Act; workmen's compensation laws for Arkansas, Mississippi and South Carolina; amendments to workmen's compensation laws in States where necessary.

Canadian Government Fixes Minimum Price for Wheat

Ottawa, Can. (AFLNS)—The Governor in Council, acting on the recommendation of the Canadian Wheat Board, fixed the minimum price of No. 1 Northern wheat at Fort William at 87½ cents a bushel. This price will be effective until July, 1936.

The objective of the price fixing, which is in accordance with the statute adopted at the recent session of Parliament, is to guarantee the farmers a fair price for their wheat. The statute created the Wheat Board with power to buy wheat from producers at the fixed minimum price.

Farmers who sell direct to the Wheat Board will share in any surplus that may arise from the Board's operations.

EDITORIALS

Justice for Mooney

The reopening of the Tom Mooney case by the California State Supreme Court should mean the beginning of the end of a long and uncalled for injustice imposed on the man who is serving a life sentence in San Quentin Prison for alleged participation in the San Francisco Preparedness Day bombing in 1916.

Albert Shaw, a California attorney acting as a referee for the Supreme Court, is holding a hearing on Mooney's application for a writ of habeas corpus based on the claim that he was convicted by perjured testimony.

If Mr. Shaw makeks a favorable report to the State Supreme Court, that should mean Mooney's liberation. If an unfavorable report is made and the State Supreme Court sustains it that will send Mooney back to San Quentin. But it will also pave the way for a hearing on the merits of the case by the United States Supreme Court, which refused to consider it a number of months ago because of the belief that Mooney had not exhausted every resource of the California courts.

Following that ruling by the nation's highest judicial body, Mooney applied to the lower courts of California for the habeas corpus writ, which was denied. The present appeal to the California State Supreme Court is the last point in California judicial procedure suggested by the United States Supreme Court.

The shameless character of Mooney's trial in San Francisco was condemned by the 1917 convention of the American Federation of Labor, which declared that the majority of our citizens believe the conviction of Mooney was brought about "through testimony which branded some of the witnesses as perjurors and those who endeavored to procure subornation of perjury for the purpose of securing such reward as might be given to them for their testimony." On the basis of this belief the A. F. of L. demanded a new trial for Mooney.

Judge Griffin, the trial judge, later supported the position taken by the American Federation of Labor. He said that if the truth had been told the jury and the jury had nevertheless convicted Mooney, he would have set the conviction aside as a gross miscarriage of justice. All reasonable persons drew a similar conclusion from the report of the Wickersham Commission, which very definitely showed that what the trial court accepted as evidence warranting conviction was nothing but absolute perjury.

The accumulation of indisputable data during nineteen long years warrants the conclusion that Mooney was convicted by processes which have been aptly described as "legal violence." Nevertheless the California courts have persistently refused to grant a new trial and Mooney still languishes in San Quentin Prison.

The Mooney case is not strictly limited to Mooney himself. The larger question is, Can an innocent man, sent to prison for life on what is generally admitted to be perjured testimony, be deprived of his freedom permanently by the technicalities of a State law which makes no provision for a new trial even though the irregularities and essential injustice of the original trial are beyond question?

The Supreme Court of the United States and various State Supreme Courts have many times ruled that mob intimidation destroys the due process of law prescribed by the Fourteenth Amendment. The Supreme Court of California now has to answer this question: Are not perjury and mob action equally destructive of due process of law? All persons interested in the preservation of fundamental justice in our judicial system hope that the Court will answer in the affirmative and order the State of California to remove the striped suit from Tom Mooney and restore him to the liberty of which he has been unjustly deprived for many years.

End of Spurious "A. F. of L. Committee"

The wide ramification of the radical and subversive "A. F. of L. Trade Union Committee for Unemployment Insurance and Relief," which for a number of years has palmed itself off as an American Federation of Labor organization, is shown by the names and places of residence of the "national committee" directing the group which are included in the Federal Trade Commission's order for them to appear before that body on October 4 on a charge of violating the Federal statute prohibiting deceptive practices as "unfair competition" and show cause why they should not be required to cease this allegedly fraudulent procedure.

The official address of this spurious "A. F. of L. Trade Union Committee for Unemployment Insurance and Relief" is 1 Union Square, New York, N. Y. According to the Commission the names of the members of the group which supervises and directs the activities of the committee are:

Louis Weinstock, Abraham Baskoff, Elmer Brown, Ben Gerjoy, Dora Zukor (or Zucker), New York, N. Y.; Richard M. Kroon, A. Allen, G. Alston, Detroit, Mich.; Frank Mozer, A. Fleming, Philadelphia, Pa.; E. Crews, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Robert C. Brown, Butte, Mont.; Harry Bridges, San Francisco, Calif.; J. P. Anderson, Washington, D. C.; Elmer Johnson, Chicago, Ill.; C. Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio; David Gordon, Middle Village, Long Island, N. Y.; Luigi Genovese, Rochester, N. Y.; A. W. McPherson, Clairton, Pa.; Charles B. Killinger, Flint, Mich., and M. Manes (or Manis), T. L. Major, A. Edwards, M. Balya, G. Spagnol, Karl Maisus (or Masis), A. Weinder, William Thacker and F. Phillips, addresses unknown.

By the use of the initials "A. F. of L." in its name the committee has undertaken to create the impression that it is an American Federation of Labor group.

By the use of the initials "A. F. of L." and the word "Federationist" in the name of its publication, "The A. F. of L. Rank and File Federationist," the committee has likewise endeavored to palm off its magazine as an American Federation of Labor publication.

The fact is that neither the committee nor its publication has never had any connection whatsoever with the American Federation of Labor.

It is for this reason that the Federal Trades Commission, after a long examination, has in effect found the committee guilty of violating the "unfair competition" provision of the statute creating the Commission. The hearing on October 4 will undoubtedly result in a cease and desist order which will put the fake "A. F. of L. Trade Union Committee for Unemployment Insurance and Relief" definitely out of business in the American labor movement.

District of Columbia Unemployment Insurance Law Provides Maximum Benefit of $15 Per Week

Board Includes John Locher, Central Labor Union President, to Represent Employes.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—John A. Marshall, executive director of the newly-created District of Columbia Unemployment Compensation Board, began the preliminary work for administering the unemployment insurance act for the Nation's capital, which Congress passed just before adjournment, by starting the compilation of a complete register of all known employers in the District.

The other members of the board are John Locher as representative of employes, Daniel J. Callahan as representative of employers, and the three District Commissioners — Melvin C. Hazen, George E. Allen and Dan I. Sultan.

Mr. Marshall has been Superintendent of Insurance of the District of Columbia for a number of years.

Mr. Locher is president of the Central Labor Union and secretary of the Building Trades Council. Over 50,000 workers are affiliated with the two organizations.

Mr. Callahan served for 28 years as vice president and general manager of the Norfolk & Washington Steamboat dition. the three Commissioners of the District of Columbia Board of Education.

The fund for unemployment compensation will be raised by a tax levied on employers' payrolls and contributions from the District of Columbia.

Payment of benefits is not to start until 1938, but the payroll tax will start January 1, 1936. The rate of contribution from employers will be 1 per cent of their payrolls in 1936, 2 per cent in 1937, and 3 per cent thereafter except that after 1940 contributions from individual employers may be lowered to 1½ per cent or raised to 4 per cent according to the unemployment hazard in the business of the employer.

The District of Columbia will pay into the fund $100,000 the first year, $125,000 the second year and $175,000 the third year, with contributions after that date to be determined by law.

Many Workers Excluded

The law applies to all employers of one or more employes with the following exemptions: Domestic service in a private home; casual labor; members of the employer's family; Federal employment; employment performed for a Member of Congress in connection with his legislative duties, and employment by the District of Columbia as a school officer or teacher, a member of the police or fire department or of an individual under the Retirement Act.

Benefits for Sixteen Weeks

Benefits to employes when they are unemployed may continue for 16 weeks per year depending on the length of employment. The amount also will depend on the wages received and whether a person is married or single and how many dependents he has, but the maximum benefit is $15 per week.

In order to qualify for benefits an individual must file a claim at the public employment office, must have been employed at least 13 weeks in the preceding year, must be physically able to work, and must register for work at the employment office. He must serve a waiting period of three weeks, which may be accumulated over a period of 13 weeks. Two weeks of partial unemployment count as one week of total unemployment in satisfying the waiting-period requirement.

(Reprinted from Sept. 16 Issue of A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Supplement)

BABCOCK IS CHOSEN HEAD OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES

Mrs. Bernice Heffner of Detroit Elected Secretary — David Glass Named President Emeritus—Legislative Program Adopted by Cincinnati Convention Includes Demand for 30-Hour Week — Constitution Changed to Include State, City and County Employes.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The convention of the American Federation of Government Employes held in Cincinnati, Ohio, re-elected E. Claude Babcock of Washington, D. C., as president of the organization. He received 160 votes against 33 cast for Paul T. Davis of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Mrs. Bernice Heffner, Veterans' Administration, Detroit, was named as secretary in place of Miss Esther Penn.

The convention also elected the following national vice presidents:

First district, John Green, Boston; second district, Henrietta Oldering, New York City; third district, John Daniels, Philadelphia; fourth district, Michael Schaefer, Ira Bain and Carroll Dimond, Washington; fifth district, C. L. Edwards, Atlanta; sixth district, James A. Campbell, Cincinnati; seventh district, Edgar M. Carpenter, Detroit; eighth district, Miss Rena Smith, St. Paul; ninth district, Charles R. Anderson, St. Louis; eleventh district, Perry Myers, Seattle; twelfth district, James Burns, San Francisco.

David Glass of Washington, D. C., a pioneer in developing the organization, was elected to the newly created office of president emeritus with advisory powers in the national organization.

The constitution of the organization was changed so as to include in its jurisdiction State, city and county employes.

Legislative Program

The convention adopted a broad legislative program which in addition to a demand for the 30-hour week included the following principles:

Automatic salary increases; extension of classification to the field and a minimum wage scale—$1,500 for employes paid on an annual basis and 55 cents an hour per diem persons; preservation of the merit system and extension of competitive civil service to the emergency agencies by non-competitive Government facilities to competitive examination; 30-year optional retirement, with the privilege to the employe of naming a joint annuitant; revamping of the efficiency rating system; termination of the marital status law; provision for a dismissal wage notice of dismissal; liberalization of quarters, subsistence, laundry allowances, to make optional with employes whether they would be accepted, and opening Government facilities to civilian employes.

Green Urges 30-Hour Week

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, who made a short talk to the convention on his way to Akron, Ohio, to assist in the establishment of a national rubber workers' union, declared that the legislative demands of the American Federation of Government Employes would have the full support of the A. F. of L.

He said he favored the 30-hour week in the Government service as an example for private industry to follow. He declared the unemployment problem could only be solved by shortening the hours of labor. He was enthusiastically applauded when he left the platform and the convention immediately recorded itself in favor of the 30-hour work week as one plank in its legislative program.

WILLIAM M. MORGAN, OHIO LABOR LEADER, IS DEAD

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Newark, Ohio.—William M. Morgan, past president of the Ohio State Federation of Labor, died at his home here September 17.

At one time Mr. Morgan was a member of the United States House of Representatives.

He was always active in the trade union movement. For a number of years he was president of the Newark Trades and Labor Assembly. When elected president of the State Federation of Labor he was serving as first vice president of that organization and had been a member of its executive council for eighteen years.

AFL DEPT. CONVENTIONS MEETS IN ATLANTIC CITY

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The annual conventions of the Building Trades Department, the Union Label Trades Department and the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor will all be held in Atlantic City, N. J., the first week in October.

The Building Trades Department convention will open at the Ambassador Hotel on October 1 at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Metal Trades Department convention will convene in the Music Room of the Hotel Chelsea at 9.30 A. M., October 1.

The Union Label Trades Department will convene in the Hotel Ambassador on October 1.

J. M. ELLIS, RAILWAY CARMEN'S OFFICER, DIES

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Kansas City, Mo.—J. M. Ellis, for many years secretary-treasurer of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America, died here September 15.

The recent convention of the Railway Carmen held in Montreal, Can., re-elected him by acclamation as a tribute to his faithful service in that organization.

Street and Electric Railway Union Enrolls 23,538 Members in Two Years

Detroit Convention Re-elects President Mahon and Names McMorrow First Vice President—Condemns Communists—Favors 30-Hour Week Without Earnings Reduction—Adopts Pension System.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Detroit, Mich. — The Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America concluded one of its most successful conventions Saturday, September 14, at the Book-Cadillac Hotel here. Detroit is the international headquarters of the Association, but this is the first time in 40 years that a convention has been held here.

W. D. Mahon was re-elected international president, the office he has held for 42 years. He has headed the organization continuously since 1893.

Edward McMorrow of Chicago, a member of the General Executive Board for 30 years, was unanimously elected first international vice president to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William B. Fitzgerald on August 16.

Communists Are Flayed

The convention did not mince words with regard to the acts of Communists within the American Federation of Labor unions. The international office was ordered to take at all times whatever steps are deemed necessary to eradicate these trouble-makers from the divisions of the Amalgamated Association and to assist the entire American Federation of Labor movement in this respect.

Pensions at Sixty-five

One of the highlights of the convention was the adoption of pensions for international officers and employes of the international organization. The old-age benefits are to be paid international officers or employes of the international office who have reached 65 years of age and who have been employed by the Association for a period of 20 years or more. International officers or employes who become totally disabled also come under the provisions of these laws. Those eligible will be retired at approximately half pay. A fund for these pensions is created by the assessment of 25 cents a year to be paid in the members' December dues. In addition to the pension, there is provided the sum of $275 as a burial fund when the pensioner passes away.

Membership and Wages Increase

The Amalgamated Association came through the depression in excellent condition. President Mahon reported that during the past two years 71 charters had been issued and 23,538 members enrolled.

In the last two years wages have been increased on the properties where members of this organization were employed to the point where, in many cases, the scale is back to the 1929 level.

Shorter Hours Demanded

It was pointed out, in the president's report, that on the majority of properties the eight-hour day and six-day week has been established, this being a reduction from former hours in the transit industry. However, the convention went on record as being in favor of further shortening the work week to bring it down to the 30-hour week without reducing the income of the workers.

In the two-year period from August 1, 1933, to July 31, 1935, the Amalgamated Association paid out in funeral, old age and disability benefits to its members $1,984,868.74. The total amount paid out by the International Association and the local divisions since organization in 1892 is $19,788,187.78.

Executive Board, Vice Presidents Named

The convention elected the following members of the General Executive Board: Magnus Sinclair, Toronto, Ont.; P. J. Shea, Scranton, Pa.; Allen H. Burt, Salt Lake City, Utah; William F. Welch, Wheeling, W. Va.; Fred A. Hoover, Vancouver, B. C.; P. J. O'Brien, Springfield, Mass.; Abe L. Spradling, Cincinnati, Ohio; Robert B. Armstrong, St. Louis, Mo., and Thomas L. McBrayer, Atlanta, Ga.

The following vice presidents were elected in addition to Edward McMorrow: William S. McClenathan, Chicago; M. J. Murray, Seattle; Charles H. Clark, Boston; Gerard Gagnon, Montreal; S. B. Berrong, Milwaukee; William Cooper, Portland, Ore.; C. E. Bartlebaugh, Wheeling; Michael Garvey, Pittsburgh, Pa.; John F. O'Brien, Lawrence, Mass.; Lawrence O'Connell, Toronto, Ont.; H. W. Robertson, Shreveport, La.; O. A. Rowan, Oakland, Calif., and Floyd W. Kriesel, Columbus, Ohio.

William Taber of Chicago was re-elected international treasurer.

The following were elected as delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention: Joseph J. Kehoe, Chicago; Neil McLellan, Detroit; Matthew J. McLaughlin, Boston; Thomas F. Broderick, Worcester. President Mahon attends by virtue of his office.

The next convention of the Amalgamated Association will be held in San Francisco in September, 1937.

Detroit Workers Education Institute Considered Many Problems of Labor

Prominent Speakers Discussed World 40-Hour Week, Wagner Labor Relations Act, Industrial Self-Government and Social Security Legislation.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Workers Educational Institute recently held in Detroit, Mich., under the auspices of the Workers Education Bureau of America and the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, contributed much valuable material to the intelligent consideration of many questions involving the welfare of working men and women. Dr. Paul L. Vogt, regional director of the Workers Education Bureau, who was in charge of the program, secured a number of experts to lead the discussions.

International 40-Hour Week

Spencer Miller, Jr., secretary and director of the Workers Education Bureau of America, in discussing world labor problems called attention to the importance given to the attempt to stabilise hours of labor on a 40-hour week basis throughout the world and pointed out that by bringing about a world standard labor conditions would be improved in all countries.

Danger of Fascism

He also stressed the seriousness of the present Italian-Ethiopian difficulty and the possibilities of its bringing about again a world struggle, the burdens of which would ultimately be borne by labor. He said the danger of Fascism and the necessity of organised labor protecting itself against this influence were also given consideration by the recent world labor conference held under the auspices of the International Labor Organization at Geneva, Switzerland.

Labor and the Wagner Act

The position of labor under the Wagner-Connery National Labor Relations Act was discussed by Charlton Ogburn, attorney for the American Federation of Labor, who clarified impressions about the scope and limitations of that Act. He said the Act is particularly important in that it makes illegal attempts to prevent labor's exercise of its right to bargain collectively through representatives of its own choosing.

Industrial Self-Government

Selig Perlman, professor of Labor Economics at the University of Wisconsin, called attention to labor's pioneering in laying the foundation for industrial self-government. He emphasized the step in recent labor history showing the growth of self-government in industry, which culminated in the passage of the code provisions of the National Industrial Recovery Act. He believed this movement is destined to continue through the influence of both labor and industry.

Union Wages and Mass Production

The contribution made by organised labor in making large-scale production possible through increasing wages in American industries, thus enlarging the ability to purchase goods produced, was presented by Max Hindeman, professor of Economics in the University of Michigan. He also recounted the stabilising influence of labor organisation as shown by the absence of serious strikes in the railway, coal mining, printing and other industries that have had effective organised labor groups for many years.

Growth of Social Legislation

In a discussion of trends in labor, Professor John A. Fitch of New York City, representing the Survey Magazine, mentioned the move toward social legislation as indicated by the recent old-age pension and unemployment insurance laws and the consideration being given to health insurance, and showed how collective bargaining, as a principle in industrial organization, has made large progress during the last four years.

Organised Labor's Stabilising Influence

A special treat was the message from Hamilton Carhartt, president of the Carhartt Overall Manufacturing Company, who for many years has dealt with organised labor in his establishment and is a firm believer in the stabilising influence of the labor movement. Mr. Carhartt is one of the increasing group of industrialists who believe in a square deal for the workers and their right to an opportunity to express themselves concerning conditions of employment.

California Labor Federation Endorses Los Angeles Labor Broadcasting Station

State Convention at San Diego Urges Federal Communications Commission to Grant Permit Asked by Metro Company.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

San Diego, Calif.—The annual convention of the California State Federation of Labor in session here supported the application of the Metro Broadcasting Company for a broadcasting permit for Station KCLC in Los Angeles to be known as "The Voice of Labor" and requested the Federal Communications Commission to act promptly on the application which has been before the Commission a number of weeks.

The text of the resolution, which was submitted in the name of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council and adopted by the convention, follows:

"Whereas, The Central Labor Council of Los Angeles has entered into a contract with the Metro Broadcasting Company for the purpose of securing a radio station in East Los Angeles; and

"Whereas, This station will be known as the 'Voice of Organized Labor' and will be operated in the interests of organized labor; and

"Whereas, President Green of the American Federation of Labor has given his approval and cooperation in this matter; and

"Whereas, Charlton Ogburn, attorney for the American Federation of Labor, is counsel for the Metro Broadcasting Company; and

"Whereas, Application for a permit to operate a radio station is before the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D. C.; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this convention of the California State Federation of Labor go on record in support of this radio station and the secretary be instructed to mail the endorsement to Anning Prall, chairman, Federal Communications Commission; and be it further

"Resolved, That the delegate from the California State Federation of Labor to the American Federation of Labor convention be instructed to present this resolution before that body for its consideration and endorsement, and such endorsement to be sent to the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C."

In the discussion on the resolution it was pointed out that all of the usual requirements established by the Federal Communications Commission for a broadcasting station have been met, and that in view of organized labor's complete support of the proposal there is no reason why the permit should not be promptly granted to Station KCLC.